



NEW LOWELL CENTRAL PUBLIC SCHOOL

5197 County Road 9, New Lowell, Ontario L0M 1N0

Phone 705-424-0991/Fax 424-0012

Ms. Angela Cook, Principal

Mrs. Jane Anderson, SASE



I am very excited for this school year. I would like to extend a warm welcome to all of our new and returning families.

New Lowell Central Public School will be continuing with initiatives that were implemented last year, in line with the strategic priorities as board initiatives. One of these being well-being which is described as: Positive sense of self and belonging; safe, healthy, respectful learning and working cultures; and appreciation for environmental practices and outdoor learning. On a school level we are continuing with our Chill, Chat, Fuel, Play initiatives. Our staff and students are exposed to a variety of coping strategies to help create a balance in our busy world.

For those of you who are not part of our Remind group, please join so you can receive important reminders from the school.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at our Meet the Teacher event taking place on Thursday, September 27, 2018.

Ms. Cook

STAFFING 2018 -- 2019

Please note there may be changes due to student enrolment, commencing the week of September 25th.

The following is the current staff for September 2017:

Principal:	Ms. A. Cook
Secretary:	Mrs. J. Anderson
Custodian:	Mrs. S. McQuay
JK/SK:	Mrs. H. Wiederer
	Ms. A. Muir
JK/SK:	Mrs. T. Haufe
	Mrs. M. Cox
Grade 1	Ms. J. Leal
Grade 1/2	Ms. M. Doka
Grade 2/3	Mr. K. Leal
Grade 3/4	Mr. G. Daniels
Grade 4/5	Mrs. S. Kimberley
Grade 5/6	Mr. B. McCann
Grade 6/7	Mrs. R. Forrest
Grade 8	Ms. N. Wismayer
French:	Ms. J. Crowston
Special Education:	Ms. K. Burns
	Mrs. Huggett
	Mrs. L. Kennedy
	Mrs. K. Young
Library:	Ms. G. Hartley
Educational Assistants:	Ms. A. Davies
	Mrs. A. Spears
	Mrs. B. Stableforth

SEPTEMBER 2018

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 10:	School Council Meeting – 6:30 p.m.
September 26-28:	Book Fair
September 27:	Meet the Teacher
September 28:	Terry Fox Run
October 10:	Picture Day
November 9:	Picture Retake Day

OFFICE HOURS

Just a reminder that our office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

BALANCED SCHOOL DAY

9:10	Entry Bell
9:10 – 10:50	First Learning Block
10:50 – 11:30	Nutrition Break
11:30 – 1:10	Second Learning Block
1:10 – 1:50	Nutrition Break
1:50 – 3:30	Third Learning Block
3:30	Dismissal

*students who go home for lunch may do so at the second Nutrition/Fitness Break with signed parent consent

REMIND - SIGN UP FOR IMPORTANT UPDATES FROM MS. COOK

Get information for NLCPS right on your phone – not on handouts. To get text notification:

Text the message @gk397e6 to the number (613) 706-2163

FRONT DOORS WILL BE LOCKED DURING SCHOOL DAY CONTINUES

The safety and well-being of our students is our top priority. We have a number of procedures in place designed to keep our school safe. Our front door will continue to be locked during the school day. All other school doors are also locked. To access the building, visitors will need to press the intercom button at the front door.

Staff in the office will let visitors into the school. This will help us ensure that all visitors sign in at the office. Please understand that staff may not be available to answer the door immediately. This same feature is in place at all SCDSB elementary schools. It's important for you to know that we'll always take whatever precautions are necessary to keep our school and students safe. If you have any questions about safety procedures, as always, please contact the principal.

3:30 PM DISMISSAL

All students will be dismissed at the same time at the end of the day. Walking students are directed to exit traveling either East or West. Eastbound student walkers will walk up to the sidewalk and proceed to the East. Those traveling to the West will walk behind the gymnasium and travel up the West side of the building to the sidewalk. Bus students will leave together.

All parents/guardians of bussed students are encouraged to reinforce the importance of using the transportation provided to and from school. Parents picking up or dropping off students are gently reminded to please ensure they are not blocking our buses or moving when our buses are loading or unloading. Thanks for helping us ensure the safety of your children.

ATTENDANCE

Please, make every effort to ensure that your child(ren) attend school regularly and for the full school day. Students arriving late or leaving early miss out on important parts of the day. This also causes interruption/disruptions within the classrooms. We ask for your cooperation in these matters. Students who have many absences or lates will receive a letter from the office indicating the importance of regular and punctual attendance.

CHARACTER EDUCATION

As part of our Board's Character Education Initiative we will be recognizing, encouraging and reinforcing the character attributes of good citizens. The 10 attributes identified by the Board include: Respect, Responsibility, Empathy, Inclusiveness, Cooperation, Caring, Honesty, Integrity, Courage and Optimism. For the month of September, we will focus on Caring as we start this school year. We look forward to your input and support as we continue this Character Education initiative.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PARENTS

Parents and guardians please note that a completed "*Request for Administration of Medication*" form is required each school year before any medication may be administered by school staff.

Please ensure that you contact the principal if your child requires medication or has severe allergies or medical life-threatening conditions.

NUT-FREE SCHOOL

New Lowell Central Public School is striving to be a nut-free school! We have staff members with allergies. Please ensure that lunches and snacks brought to school do not contain any traces of nuts. Thank you for your cooperation.

SABRINA'S LAW

Sabrina's Law is an Act to protect anaphylactic pupils and is currently in effect at all schools in Ontario. As part of Sabrina's Law there is a requirement that every school principal develop an individual plan for each pupil who has an anaphylactic allergy. In order to protect students within our school community to the best of our ability it is critical for parents of children with an anaphylactic allergy to do the following:

- Inform the school principal of your child's allergies
- Provide an up to date/non expired epinephrine auto-injector (Epi pen) that may be kept in the office or in a mutually agreed upon location within the school. Parents should keep a log of expiry dates and replace outdated auto-injectors.
- Provide a medic alert bracelet for your child to wear at all times
- Encourage your child to keep an epinephrine auto-injector (Epi pen) on their person when age appropriate.
- Work with the school to complete an Anaphylaxis Emergency Plan which has child's photograph, allergy information, contact information and emergency plan.

We encourage all those within our school community to become familiar with signs and symptoms of anaphylaxis and how to respond or access assistance in the event of an anaphylactic emergency. Together we can help create a safe and supportive learning environment for all our students.

PROCEDURES TO KEEP OUR SCHOOLS SAFE

The safety and well-being of our students is our top priority. We have a number of procedures in place designed to keep our school safe. You can help your child understand and feel safe by:

- Talking to them about the situations below
- Reminding them that emergencies are rare
- Telling them it's important to follow staff instructions in these situations

Shelter in place

Shelter in place is used when there is an environmental or weather-related situation, like a chemical spill outside the building, or a major storm. During a shelter in place, activities will continue inside the school, but students and staff will not be allowed to leave the building. In some cases, the ventilation system may be shut off.

Hold and secure

A hold and secure is initiated when there is a situation taking place in the community that is not related to the school, like a bank robbery nearby. A hold and secure is usually initiated by police. During a hold and secure, activities continue inside the building, but all doors are locked and no one is allowed to enter or exit the school.

Lockdown

A lockdown is used when there is a major incident or a threat of violence related to the school. A lockdown can be initiated by police or by school staff. During a lockdown, students and staff will move to secure areas, away from doors and windows. Doors are locked, lights are shut off and blinds are drawn. Students and staff will remain absolutely quiet. We practice lockdown drills at least two times per year. In the unlikely event of an actual lockdown situation, police ask that parents do not go to the school. There will be a Designated Parent Information Site, which will be communicated through the school board social media sites (www.facebook.com/SCDSB and www.twitter.com/SCDSB_Schools) and website (www.scdsb.on.ca), through local police and local media.

Evacuation Plans

All schools have evacuation plans in case of gas leaks, bomb threats or fire incidents that would require everyone to leave the school. We hold drills to practice our evacuation plan. In a real evacuation, students and staff may go the evacuation site, depending on the situation. Parents will be informed about pick-up procedures by the school, school board and local media.

Safe arrival system

We ask all parents to contact us when their child will be absent from school. When we don't hear from a parent/guardian, and a student is absent, we call home to find out the reason for the absence.

First aid training and equipment

At least two staff members in every school are trained in first aid and CPR. All Simcoe County District School Board schools are equipped with Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs).

When parents are at school during a drill or emergency event, they must follow direction from school staff, police, fire and/or emergency personnel. Parents may not have immediate access to their children during drills or emergencies. They may need to wait until the situation is resolved and school staff and/or emergency personnel release students into parent care.

It's important for you to know that we'll always take whatever precautions are necessary to keep our school and students safe.

PLEASE! NO GLASS BOTTLES IN LUNCHES!

A reminder to students and parents that all drinks brought in lunches should be in plastic containers or tetra-paks.

BREAKFAST PROGRAM

Breakfast is an important part of every student's day. Many students arrive at school hungry and having missed this meal. Students need food to fuel their brains and help them focus and learn at school.

We will soon be placing fresh fruit and healthy food at entry time every day. We will also be supplying fresh fruit and healthy food to every classroom.

We need your help! To make this program successful and accessible to all students we need parent/community volunteers!

If you have 20 minutes before school starts to spare, please consider volunteering for our Breakfast Program.

Please contact the school if you are interested in volunteering. Please help us to continue to offer this program to our students!

UPDATING STUDENT RECORDS

To assist us in maintaining up-to-date student records, we will be sending home an "Information Update" sheet for each student and we ask that parents make changes with respect to:

- 1) phone numbers (home/work)
- 2) emergency names and numbers
- 3) medical information

These will be sent home later this month and it is important that they be returned to our school office as soon as possible.

STUDENT AGENDAS

This year, each student in JK – Gr. 3 has received a *Student Agenda Book designed by the SCDSB*. There is no cost to the students. Please review the valuable information in the front of the agenda with your student(s).



LUNCH POLICY

Bussed students are not permitted to leave school property during lunchtime unless accompanied by a parent. Students who walk to school (i.e. not identified as bus students) are able to go home for lunch at the second nutrition/fitness break.



PIZZA

We will be starting our pizza program on Friday, Sept. 21st. Price will be \$2 per slice. Money will be collected in the morning and pizza will be delivered at the second nutrition break at 1:10 p.m.

MILK

The milk program will also start on Friday, Sept. 21st. Students who wish to purchase milk will bring their money to the milk room. Both chocolate and white milk will be available. The money from this fundraiser goes to Field Trip subsidy.



SCHOOL PICTURES

Photographers will be in our school to photograph our students for all classes on Wednesday, October 10, 2018. Picture retake day is Friday, November 9, 2018.

KEEP CONNECTED WITH YOUR SCHOOL AND THE SCDSB

It's important to get accurate information about what's going on at your school and at the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB). Here are some ways to do that:

- Subscribe to our school's website by visiting the 'What's New' section at <http://nlo.scdsb.on.ca>. You can sign up to receive emails about school news updates and information during emergency situations. It's easy to subscribe – visit our website and click the 'Subscribe' link at the very top of the page. Provide your email and click Subscribe, a message will be sent to our inbox with a link to click to confirm that you want to subscribe. You can unsubscribe at any time using the link at the bottom of each email.
- Sign up to receive Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) media releases by clicking the "Subscribe" button at www.scdsb.on.ca. The SCDSB Education Centre can be reached at 705-734-6363.
- Follow the SCDSB on Twitter (@SCDSB_Schools), Facebook (facebook.com/SCDSB) and Instagram (instagram.com/scdsb)
- New Lowell C.P.S. also has twitter (@nlo_scdsb)

For school bus transportation information, visit the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium's website at: main.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca. Also remember to bookmark the school bus information page at: simcoecountyschoolbus.ca for bus delay and cancellation information on inclement weather days.

SCHOOL BUS 'BUS TAG' PROGRAM HELPS STUDENTS GET TO AND FROM SCHOOL SAFELY

The Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium's Bug Tag program supports safety for JK/SK and other school identified students. The program helps match students to their assigned afternoon school bus and identifies that they must be met by a parent or guardian at their afternoon bus stop.

The program provides a colour coded route card with route number in the windows of the school bus that the Bus Tag is matched to. The program can also provide tags for students who are walkers and/or who remain at an on-site childcare centre to make sure they don't get on a bus in error.

For more information, visit main.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca and click on the "Safety" tab.

SEPTEMBER SCHOOL BUS SAFETY TIP - SCHOOL BUSES ARE BACK ON THE ROAD

As students return to school, the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC) reminds everyone that school buses are back on our roads. The majority of school buses in Simcoe County are on the road in the morning from 7 – 9:30 a.m. and again in the afternoon from 2 – 4:30 .m. As a reminder to drivers:

- Take caution – Be extra cautious in the vicinity of school buses and around school bus loading and unloading zones
- Be alert – Watch for school bus chrome yellow Colouring, flashing red lights and stop arms. Drivers travelling in both directions on a road without median must stop for a stopped school bus that has its upper red lights flashing
- Know the repercussions – Any driver that fails to stop for a school bus with its lights engaged is subject to a fine of up to \$2,000 and six demerit points for a first time offence
- Be empowered – Anyone who witnesses a driver failing to stop for a school bus can report the incident to police

Visit the SCSTC web site at www.simcoecounty.schoolbus.ca, click on the "Home" button and then the "Safety" tab for more information.

NEW SIMCOE COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD WEBSITE LAUNCHED THIS SUMMER

Visit www.scdsb.o.ca to check out our brand new look! Our new website launched in July, providing users with an accessible experience that is mobile-friendly – it works well whether you're on a desktop computer, mobile phone or tablet. The new website also has improved search functionality and a special *SCDSBshines* section to highlight and celebrate the amazing accomplishments of our staff.

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE 2018-2019

Student injuries at school, during school events, and extra-curricular activities (athletics, clubs, and out-of-province/out-of-country trips) are not covered by the Board or its insurance company. While every precaution is taken to provide a safe learning environment, accidents can and do happen. It is essential that all students participating in extra-curricular activities have adequate insurance coverage for all instances of injury. The Simcoe County District School Board has selected the "insure my kids" program through Old Republic Canada as an option for students/parents/guardians to consider with regards to purchasing student accident insurance coverage for the upcoming school year. The coverage is for 24 hours a day. This insurance offers a variety of plans and benefits at reasonable annual prices. Coverage can be purchased online at www.insuremykids.com. Please watch for your student accident insurance package along with a letter about requirements for extra-curricular activities and out-of-province or out-of-country trips.

STUDENT DRESS CODE

Students are expected to respect the guidelines when dressing for school. Our school is a safe space. We work to be equitable and inclusive, and understand that students may choose to express themselves through their clothing choices. Student clothing cannot pose a safety concern or conceal identity. Exceptions are granted to students who wear head coverings or other garments/objects for the purposes of religious observance, medical or sensory needs, or other reasons protected by the Ontario Human Rights Code.

The SCDSB dress code is available in the student agenda and online at www.scdsb.on.ca. If you have questions about the dress code, you can contact the principal or the SCDSB Equity and Inclusive Education Team at 705-728-7570.

PAY FOR FIELD TRIPS WITH SCHOOLCASH ONLINE

We have made it easy for parents to make their school purchases from the convenience of their own home. We have it online for you! Follow these three steps to get started:

1. Go to simcoecounty.schoolcashonline.com or visit our school website and click on "Pay Fees".
2. Register and add your child to the newly created account
3. View and purchase items through bank transfer or credit card

It's safe, fast and convenient. Contact the office with any questions.

GIVING BACK TO THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY - VOLUNTEER IN OUR SCHOOL

Volunteers are an important part of what makes our school a great place to learn and grow. We value and appreciate the support of our volunteers. There are many opportunities available, including school council, breakfast clubs, reading help, assisting in the classroom or library and much more. Everyone who volunteers in a school must have a criminal record check, which includes a Vulnerable Sector Screening. Please call or visit the school office for more information about opportunities available or if you'd like to volunteer!

SCHOOLS ARE AVAILABLE FOR COMMUNITY USE

Through our Community Use of Schools program, almost all of our schools are available outside of school hours for not-for-profit community groups. Our gyms, fields, auditoriums and classrooms are available for your sporting events, concerts, recitals and more.

You can apply online. A Permit Clerk will process the application and advise if the facility is available at the requested time. Once an application is approved, a rental contract will be issued and the applicant will be invoiced. For more information, visit www.scdsb.on.ca, click on 'Schools' and then 'Community Use of Schools.'

REMINDER FROM THE SIMCOE MUSKOKA DISTRICT HEALTH UNIT: PACKING A HEALTHY SCHOOL LUNCH

A school lunch should give children the energy and nutrients they need to be ready to learn, be more alert and perform better at school. When planning lunches keep these tips in mind:

- Include one serving from at least three of the four food groups from Canada's Food Guide
- Rather than buying pre-made lunch kits, make your own healthy lunch kit with divided containers and small 'bite-sized' cheese cubes, left over chicken chunks, veggie sticks or fruit slices
- Get your kids to eat more veggies! Send cucumber coins, zucchini sticks and pepper strips with dip
- Fill whole wheat or multi grain wrap/pits/tortilla shells with your child's favourite foods such as hummus and grated carrot or sliced turkey with honey mustard.
- Water is the best option for hydration

Looking for more information to help keep you and your family healthy? Call *Health Connection* at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-5720 to speak with a public health nurse or visit the health unit's website at www.simcoemuskokahealth.org

SCDSB COMMUNITY APPS PORTAL MAKES VOLUNTEERING EASY

We appreciate the commitment of all who volunteer at our school. This school year, we are implementing a new online Volunteer Portal. SCDSB Community Apps is a new online portal that allows you to begin the process for volunteering at a SCDSB school. The portal eliminates much of the paperwork currently associated with volunteers. Volunteer applications and approvals will occur online. The new mandate for Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) training, for volunteer is also part of the portal. The Volunteer Portal is available for all new people requesting to volunteer at a school location:

<http://communityapps.scdsb.on.ca>. Only new volunteers or those who require an updated Criminal Background Check Vulnerable Sector Screening (CBC-VSS) are able to register on the portal at this time.

PARENT PORTAL GIVES PARENTS REAL-TIME ACCESS TO ATTENDANCE, GRADE INFORMATION

The SCDSB Parent Portal is a secure online tool that provides parents/guardians (of students less than 18 years of age) with quick access to their children's attendance and grades and includes the option to sign up for email notifications. To access the parent Portal, parents/guardians will need their child's SCDSB Pupil ID Number, which can be found on the Student Information Verification Form, as well as an Access ID. The Access ID will be provided in a secure letter this fall with instructions on how to create an account. If you lose the Access ID, you can visit us in the school office and we'll provide it to you after verifying your identity.

REMINDER FROM THE HEALTH UNIT: SCHOOL GROUNDS ARE SMOKE FREE 24/7

Protect yourself and your children from the health hazards of secondhand smoke. Remember, it is against the law to smoke ANYWHERE on school property at ANY TIME. This includes smoking in your vehicle while picking up or dropping off students. It is also against the law to smoke or hold lit tobacco in a vehicle carrying anyone under age 16. The fine for ignoring the law is \$250. For more information contact the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 or visit www.simcoemuskokahealth.org.

TERRY FOX RUN

The Terry Fox run will be held at the school on Friday, September 28 from 2 – 3 p.m. Parents are welcome to join. We will be running around the school again this year. Pledge forms will be sent home soon. Our school's goal is \$2800. When we raise \$1000, students will be able to wear hats all day! When we raise \$1500, some staff will dress up in costumes/clothes provided by students. When we reach \$2000 staff will wear crazy hair for a day! If we reach \$2500 staff will play a life size game of Hungry Hungry Hippos for all students to watch. Mrs. Wiederer will also dye a strip of her hair purple. And if we reach \$2800, Ms. Cook will kiss a pig! The student who raises the most money will get to have a silly string fight with a teacher of their choice. They will also receive a FREE Terry Fox t-shirt. Let's go Chargers!

HELP RAISE AWARENESS OF CHILDHOOD CANCER

On Friday, September 14th, all schools will be invited to have a day of yellow and gold to show support and spread awareness for children fighting cancer. For more information contact info@candlelighterssimcoe.ca #gogoldforkids#CLightersSimcoe

GUIDING IS THE PLACE FOR TODAY'S GIRLS!

You won't believe what girls in Guiding do today – from eco-activities, sports and camping, to fashion design, cooking, advocacy and community service projects. Most of all girls have a blast!

BROWNIES for ages 7 – 8, GUIDES for ages 9 – 11, PATHFINDERS for ages 12 – 14 & RANGERS ages 15 - 18 (Contact: Tammy 705-796-0767/nlbrownies@gmail.com) Weekly meetings held from September to June. Spaces are limited so register on-line today @ www.girlguides.ca! Financial assistance is available for registration fee and cost of uniform. For more information, contact Girl Guides of Canada 877-323-4545 Ext. #5131.

An Information/Registration Night will be held at the New Lowell United Church on Wednesday, September 12, 2018 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

FOLLOW US TO STAY CURRENT WITH SCHOOL BOARD NEWS

Be the first to know about new programs and initiatives by subscribing to receive news from www.scdsb.on.ca. Find stories and tips on our blog at www.sharingsimcoe.com. Join the conversation: Follow us on Twitter @scdsb_schools and 'Like' Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) on Facebook.